NEW YORK JOURNAL.

W. R. HEARST.

162 NASSAU STREET, NEW YORK.

MONDAY, AUGUST 24, 1896.

Entered in the Post Office in New York as second-class matter.

SUBSCRIPTION RATES.

DAILY AND SUNDAY, Per Month........ .40
DAILY AND SUNDAY, Per Year.........$4.50
DAILY, Without Sunday, Per Month...... .30
DAILY, Without Sunday, Per Year........$3.00
SUNDAY, Alone, Per Year...............$1.50

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THE WEATHER.

Official forecasts for to-day indicate that it will be fair; easterly winds.

The election of Hanna's candidate would mean a first term of McKinley, but a third term of Clevelandism.

When Mr. McKinley is silent the country wonders why Hanna never lets him speak. When he speaks the mystery disappears.

Nothing in Hoke Smith's connection with the Cleveland Administration becomes him like the leaving of it. Hail, Hoke, and farewell.

The announcement of the approaching consolidation of the Western Union and Bell Telephone companies has received the final stamp of authenticity, Russell Sage denies it.

That Treasury circular of information sent out by Mr. Carlisle is not as complete as it might be, but it contains information enough to puncture a good many monometallist fallacies.

The Commissioners of the District of Columbia have decided that single taxers can talk on the streets of Washington as long as they do not disturb the peace. Thus far the only piece of Russian territory in the United States appears to be in Dover, Del.

The condition of Chauncey Johnson, the bank thief, who has stolen half a million dollars, has spent a large part of his life in prison, and is now penniless in his old age, is a solemn reminder of the old truth that honesty is the best policy. No sensible man who wishes to become rich without working will steal. He will become a financier.

It is rather curious that with all the decadence of the American merchant marine Li Hung Chang should find the American flag flying over the highest type of commercial marine architecture he has ever seen. He has taken passage in an American built steamer that eclipses anything he has had an opportunity of sailing on up to this stage of his travels, and as Orientals are apt to be impressed by what they see more than by what they hear, he will probably carry to China a different idea of America's place among maritime countries from that prevalent in Europe.

M'KINLEY'S MASTERPIECE.

Inspired by two bands, a drum corps, a calliope and a brass howitzer, Mr. McKinley launched on Saturday the most ambitious speech of his campaign. The candidate was receiving a deputation from Pennsylvania, and he told his visitors why they ought to vote for him. "I note with great satisfaction," he remarked, "the message which your eloquent spokesman brings to me, that the people of Pennsylvania have lost none of their devotion to the great principles of the Republican party, and that this year they will give to the Republican national ticket an unrivalled Republican majority."

Nor am I surprised, my fellow-citizens, that this is so. We have had three years of bitter experience under a policy which the Republican party has always opposed, and there has been nothing in that experience to win us to that policy, but everything to increase our devotion to the old policy of protection which stands opposed to it.

It is hard for Mr. McKinley to adjust himself to the fact that he is the Cleveland candidate, and represents the only party which advocates a perpetuation of the policy that has given us our "three years of bitter experience." We have a protective tariff now, and even if his quack remedy of more protection had any value it would not be a matter of practical politics. Mr. McKinley knows that no new tariff bill can get through the Senate without a free coinage proviso. He cannot offer a change in that respect, therefore, and he does not offer a change in finance. Our "three years of bitter experience" have been the first since the partial remonetization of silver in 1878 when we have had a contracting currency. Mr. McKinley proposes to continue the contraction that has deprived us of about $150,000,000 in gold and taken an equal amount of currency out of circulation. The hard time periods from 1873 to 1878 and from 1893 to 1896 have been the bitterest in our history, and both have been periods of a stationary or declining volume of currency. This is the policy which Mr. McKinley asks us to continue.

He offers us no reason whatever for supposing that the gold standard under McKinley will work better than the gold standard under Cleveland. The American people, he tells us, "have a chance this year to prevent the free silver law from going on the statute books, and thus keep our money of every kind now in circulation as good as gold and preserve our national name above reproach." But he does not tell us how the maintenance of the present conditions is going to restore prosperity. Will good times come when all our greenbacks and Treasury notes have been turned into bonds, and Messrs. Heidelbach, Ickelheimer & Co. have sent all our gold abroad, and we are left to do the business of 75,000,000 people on $340,000,000 in silver certificates and 60,000,000 silver dollars?

FINANCIERS AND THE STATE.

The New York banks are about to resort to the issue of Clearing House certificates as an expedient for tiding over a grave stringency in the money market. Every day the business community hears of some old-established commercial house forced into bankruptcy by the unwillingness or the inability of the banks to furnish needed accommodations. How many new enterprises which would give employment for labor if successfully established have been destroyed in their very inception by the scarcity of the circulating medium it is impossible to estimate. Probably every active business man knows of a dozen such. Meantime the Treasury gold reserve is being maintained by Mr. J. Pierpont Morgan and a few bankers of well known unselfish patriotism. They are sustaining it partly by refraining from asking for gold, partly by giving the Treasury gold in exchange for United States and Treasury notes which they lock up in their vaults. For the time a double contraction of the currency results. Secretary Carlisle locks up the gold, the bankers lock up the notes. After election the notes will go with a rush to the Treasury, the gold in a yellow flood will pour into the bank safes and the need for maintaining the $100,000,000 redemption fund, never prescribed by law, will impel Mr. Cleveland to saddle another $100,000,000 or so of bonds upon the people to the profit of the patriotic bankers.

Since the war ended currency legislation has practically been dictated by the banking community. Once in awhile the people have taken the bit in their teeth and enacted some measure for their own relief, but the quiet, persistent work of the financiers who find their profit in a contracted currency has undone nearly all which spasmodic popular effort has accomplished. The situation in which the business community now finds itself is chiefly the result of the legislation of years dictated by the money power; partly the effect of remorseless use to-day of the power which the banks have won for themselves to coerce, intimidate and ruin a community which will not surrender to them its small remaining independence.

The bankers and financiers will reply that the gravity of the business situation is not due to the failure of their legislation, not due to any improper use by them of their power to "squeeze" the business community, but to "lack of confidence." They are just half right. There is lack of confidence—in them. The people are tired of legislating money out of the hands of the many and into the hands of the few. They remember that to force the repeal of the purchase clause of the Sherman law the bankers undertook an "object lesson" which not only ruined thousands of business houses, but brought down in the general ruin scores of banks as well—most of them national banks at that. Even the great financial institutions of New York only escaped being engulfed in the wave of disaster which they started by resort to the extra-legal device of Clearing House certificates.

Witnessing the disastrous results upon the business community of twenty-five years of currency legislation dictated by and for the bankers, the people may well hesitate to allow this favored class continued control of the currency. Noting the unscrupulous and ruinous use which those who deal in the money of the country make of their power the people may well hesitate before making that power more absolute. The speaker at the Saturday Bryan meeting put a great truth in a homely way when he said: "They tell us to go to the bankers to settle the money question. You might as well tell a hen to go and ask a fox where is the best place to roost."

It will be noticed that those who oppose the currency programme of Mr. Bryan offer nothing in its place. The Republican platform declares for the maintenance of the present gold standard—that standard which has reduced the value of everything produced by nearly one-half, robbed industry of its profits, deprived labor of employment, and compelled the concentration of all the money of the land in the hands of a few. But mark you, while the Republican platform makes no explicit declaration of a change in the existing currency system, the bankers and money dealers who, without regard to politics, are flocking to support of the Republican party, have already declared their idea of the way to maintain the existing standard. Ever since they forced the repeal of the purchase clause of the Sherman law, thus stopping any increase by the Government of the volume of money to keep pace with the growing demand, they have been planning to force a positive contraction. Their purpose of compelling the retirement of the United States notes and Treasury notes which are now in circulation to an amount jointly approximating $450,000,000 is frankly avowed. To accomplish this retirement issue of bonds for nearly a like amount would be necessary, and an interest charge not less than $12,000,000 annually settled upon the country. The bankers will defend this heavy expense with the plea that with these notes out of the way the Treasury would no longer be in danger of being drained of its gold, but had Secretary Carlisle met the first banker who sought to drain the Treasury with a proffer of silver—as the law and the form of the notes authorized him—that endless chain would have broken at the first revolution. They will tell you too that no contraction would result from retirement of these notes, as bank notes would take their place. That means that the people shall pay to the banks $12,000,000 or more for a volume of currency which they now get for nothing, and besides vastly increase the already dangerous power of the banks over the circulating medium.

These are matters which the business man, the farmer and the workingman should study with minds open to knowledge, and with full recognition of the fact that the men and institutions that make a business of dealing in money are a unit in support of McKinley. If they approach the subject free from dread of their banker's opinion it will be odd indeed if they do not reach, with Montesquieu, the final conclusion: "Financiers sustain a state as the cord supports the man it hangs."

THE BANKERS' MONEY.

The proposed issue of Clearing House certificates is a curious commentary upon the theory that our monetary troubles are due to a redundancy of the currency, and that all we need to make times good is a sharp contraction. There has been a contraction here, partly through exports of gold, partly through the accumulation of currency in the Treasury, and partly through the Western and Southern demand for money to move the crops, and the result is that the banks, instead of finding the situation comfortable, are so pinched that they are preparing to resort to the issue of an extra-legal, if not illegal, circulation to relieve their distress. They are felicitating themselves upon the fact that the Treasury has just let out, in redemption of Pacific Railroad bonds and in pension payments, a few of those millions of currency which it has just laboriously rounded up with the help of bond issues, and which they have been insisting it ought to cancel and destroy.

"I attribute the condition of affairs to the stringency of money," remarks President J. Edward Simmons, of the Fourth National Bank. This stringency has manifested itself in payments of interest at the rate of 10 per cent on gilt edged commercial paper. There is a singular discrepancy between this effect of a contracted circulation and the theory that debtors find compensation for an appreciating dollar in a reduction in the rates of interest. It always happens in this part of the world that when money is scarce the debtor has to pay high interest, and thinks himself lucky to get a loan on any terms at all. We are not acquainted in this vicinity with the banker, evidently a familiar spectacle to monometallic theorists, who remarks to an applicant for accommodation: "Money is so tight just now that we shall have to let you have it at 2 per cent a year, and I am afraid that if you wait another week it will be so scarce that we shall be unable to get more than 1 per cent for it."

Now that the banks are officially announcing that there is not money enough to do the business of the country, the public will be likely to insist that the Government shall make up the deficiency.

It is not essential that timid people should leave New York, although Corbett and Fitzsimmons are both in town, each screaming that he can lick the other. Corbett and Fitzsimmons have been in the same towns before to-day, bound by contracts containing forfeit clauses in case they did not fight, but neither circumstances, man nor beast has ever been able to get them together in the prize ring. If they ever did meet each other where they had to fight the consequences would doubtless be terrible, but the humane providence of nature has thus far kept them apart when their fury was at its height, and only brought them together when each was in a mood to sign contracts to fight from one to three thousand miles away. It is probable that if the two men ever did get together in the prize ring each would die at once of heart disease, so that there is no immediate necessity to leave the city for any one who does not fear anything more terrible than wind.

The fact that another bank president has been forced to resign on account of his free silver views is welcomed by a gold standard contemporary with the remark: "This is as it should be. If every bank president tainted with free silver or populism would resign, the moral effect on the sound money cause would be most salutary." It would certainly go a good way in that direction, and if every railroad president, bond broker and head of a trust could be induced to join the solid phalanx of sound money bank presidents the attractiveness of the spectacle to farmers and workingmen ought to be irresistible.

SOME QUESTIONS ABOUT SILVER

Answered by Champions of the Foremost Organizations Supporting Free Coinage or Gold Monometallism.

QUESTION OF THE DAY.

THE APPRECIATED DOLLAR: Has the Present Standard Wronged the Debtor?

For the American Bimetallic League (Bimetallism).

THE gold standard has wronged the debtor to whatever extent it has forced him to pay the creditor more property than was borrowed. The representative of the gold standard in this discussion practically admitted this when he said that an honest dollar is "one which has a constant purchasing power." He qualified his admission, however, by saying that purchasing power should not be measured by the prices of property alone, but also by the price of labor. Bimetallists accept the qualification if he means "labor of the same quality." Labor of the same quality—the labor of the Hindoo peasants for example—has fallen as much measured in gold as the products of their labor. If, however, he means that labor which increases in productiveness ought to be kept down to the same money wage in order that creditors may get more of the products of industry, we denounce the proposition as a manifest wrong.

The creditors—the best of them—represent those who produced in the past. They are entitled to the property they produced—no more and no less. If they put it in the form of money, that money ought to continue to represent the same amount of property. If the law makes it represent more property, then the law takes from some one else the property he has produced.

Those who produced in the past are entitled to all the wealth they produced, but those who are producing in the present are also entitled to all the wealth they produce. If their labor has increased in efficiency, they are entitled to a corresponding advance in wages. The outrage of the gold standard upon the producing classes is only half measured by the fall in wages since 1873, admitted by monometallist scientists like Leroy-Beaulieu and proven by the American reports for city industries, mining and agriculture, already cited in this discussion. The wrong to these classes lies also in the fact that the gold standard has prevented the continuance of the advance in wages that took place during the previous twenty years of bimetallism and steady or rising prices. The producers of the present are robbed when they are compelled to pay to the creditors more property than the creditors produced.

How much more have they been compelled to pay? This question may be answered by reference to any one of the scientific investigations of the fall of prices and the figures—whether of monometallists or bimetallists—will not materially differ. The figures of Sauerbeck published yearly in the Journal of the Royal Statistical Society are probably the best. Sauerbeck's standard of prices is the general level during the twenty-five years, 1853-1877, when prices remained substantially uniform, except that in 1873 they were raised by the issue of paper money during the Franco-Prussian war. The general level during this period was taken as 100, measured by this standard. Prices for the last forty years have ranged as follows:

	Food Products.	Minerals.	Textiles.	Sundry Materials.	Total.
1855	101	109	84	109	101
1860	98	97	90	111	99
1865	91	91	134	97	101
1870	93	89	106	99	96
1873	107	141	103	106	111
1875	100	101	88	92	96
1880	94	79	81	89	88
1885	74	66	65	76	72
1890	73	84	71	68	73
1895	62	64	56	65	62

These figures measure fairly the general fall in the value of property that has taken place since silver was excluded from the mints. The value of stores, factories, farms and, indeed, of all real estate, except in rapidly growing cities, has fallen in like ratio. The value of gold has increased until $62 represents as much property to-day as $100 represented a generation ago. This means that the weight of all debts has increased in this proportion, and debtors have been compelled to pay back that much more than they borrowed.

In 1890 the public debt of the world was $30,000,000,000. Since that time the value of a dollar has been increased one-sixth, and the owners of this debt at present prices can demand one-sixth more property now than then. In other words since 1890 the gold standard has transferred a million times $5,000 from the taxpayers to the bondholders.

For the Sound Currency Committee of the Reform Club.

(Gold Standard.)

IT is generally assumed that gold is appreciating in value, and that this appreciation is entirely at the expense of the debtor. We are then told of the awful loss and injury resulting from this cause. Even as learned a man and careful a reasoner as President Andrews, of Brown University, says, unqualifiedly, that "increase in the value of money robs debtors," and then proceeds to picture the terrible consequences. Very few, especially of the bimetallists, ever stop to consider if there are any natural laws at work to prevent the injustice which at first thought seems apparent.

Had a person never rolled a hoop over the ground or seen a bicycle in motion he would, because of his intimate knowledge of the effects of the law of gravitation, naturally expect the wheel to fall to the ground. Yet, so long as it is kept going and its course is not interrupted or changed too suddenly, it does not fall, and it can be ridden with safety. By inclining toward the centre, one can ride in a circle with almost the same ease and safety as along a straight road. Certain laws or forces are counteracted by certain others, and an equilibrium is established which preserves the rider from injury under ordinary conditions. He may or may not understand these forces; they work just as effectively.

So it is in the case of money and interest. Natural laws or forces are at work which, under ordinary conditions, establish an equilibrium which prevents any great injury from the effects of an appreciating or depreciating money. These forces work as well with, as without, the knowledge of debtors and creditors. If the dollar is appreciating in value steadily the tendency to rob the debtor will be counteracted by the lower rate of interest which, through the competition of money lenders, will result from such appreciation. The appreciation will then be discounted in advance by a lower rate of interest. As in the case of the wheel, it is only when the course is suddenly changed that this equilibrium cannot be counted on to prevent injury.

If we should one year produce immense quantities of gold, at very little expense, and the next two or three years produce no gold, because the mines had been exhausted, the value of the gold dollar would, perhaps, depreciate, and then appreciate so rapidly that the rate of interest could not adjust itself so as to prevent injustice. However, the great quantity of gold in the world, as compared with the amount likely to be added in any one, two or three years, is a guarantee against any sudden and great change in the purchasing power of the dollar.

It is not easy to say what constitutes a stable dollar, or to determine when it is appreciating or depreciating. Mr. Henry Farquhar has demonstrated ("A Stable Monetary Standard") that it is unfair to include only prices of merchandise when testing the dollar. To do this would tend to give debtors all of the benefits of improved methods of production. He concludes that it is best to test a dollar by its full purchasing power over both merchandise and labor. As about the same amount of money is paid labor as is paid for goods—each man spending, as a consumer, what he receives, as a producer—it seems fair to put wages on a par with prices in testing our dollar.

Mr. Farquhar, in his very able and philosophical discussion, has made tests based upon wages and prices in this and in othe countries. His conclusion may be summarized in this way:

Measured by prices (excluding the effects of duties, etc.), silver has remained almos unchanged in value since 1860.

Measured by wages, silver has depreciated two-thirds since 1860.

Measured by both prices and wages, silver has depreciated about one-third since 1860.

Measured by prices, gold has appreciated about 8 per cent in this country and 30 per cent in England since 1860.

Maesured by wages, gold has depreciated about 40 per cent since 1860.

Measured by both prices and wages, gold has depreciated about 10 per cent since 1860.

Not only has gold preserved a more uniform purchasing power over both merchandise and labor since 1860, but its fluctuations have not been so sudden or so great as were those of silver. This has certainly been true since 1885. What might have been the case had silver not been demonetized, since 1870, in the civilized countries that had not previously demonetized it, can only be surmised. Those who wish to do so can speculate as well on what might have been the price of horses to-day but for steam, electricity and bicycles as on what might have happened to silver had it not been displaced by gold.

Putting these facts together, we find that our dollar is probably depreciating slowly and steadily, and that, therefore, it is neither wronging the debtor nor the creditor to any considerable extent. If it is not a perfectly honest dollar, it is more nearly honest than would be either a silver dollar or a dollar half-way between gold and silver, which is what the bimetallists hope to give us.

If, as seems probable, gold was really appreciating from about 1873 to 1880, when more strain was being put upon it, because so many countries were demonetizing silver, and when its production was decreasing, such is not the case now that all the leading countries are practically on a gold basis, and the world's output of gold has doubled, since 1886, and is increasing rapidly. The prospects are that gold will depreciate in value during the next decade only less rapidly than will silver. The process of evolution is nearly completed, and the world is on a gold basis. No one nation can change this standard of value, or put another standard on a par with it. Any nation that makes such an attempt will do so at its certain peril and loss.

The Stars in the Flag Are Silver.

By N. P. Babcock.

Out of the West from the land of the grain,
Comes the sound of a song men are singing;
High on the mountain and over the plain
Is the flash of the flag they are bringing.
Welcome the banner, 'tis no foreign rag,
Look! they are silver! the stars in the flag.

Now at the shop and the forge and the mill
With the beads on her brow Labor standeth:
"What is this army approaching at will?
And what is the thing it commandeth?
Would it 'Old Glory' from battlements drag?"
Look! they are silver! the stars in the flag.

Hark to the cry from the loom and the fields,
'Tis a cry like the cry of a mother:
"Men of the East would you raise golden shields
"In a war on a friend and a brother?
"Who says our banner is Anarchy's rag?"
Look! they are silver! the stars in the flag.

Silver! not gold are the twoscore of stars,
And they tell for our country its story.
Down with the hand of the Shylock who mars
For a measure of gold, our "Old Glory!"
Here's the reply to Plutocracy's brag:
Look! they are silver! the stars in the flag.

We Aim to Please.

[Chicago Dispatch.]

If it comes to a pinch, we can pay Spain for the damage done by filibusters either in sound money or a sound thrashing.

McKinley Dissents.

[St. Louis Republic.]

No temptation will induce McKinley to enter a joint debate with Bryan. McKinley does not agree with the New York editors who say that Bryan is an oratorical disappointment.

Political Wisdom.

[Denver Post.]

It is the part of political wisdom to have Mr. Bryan take a lively personal interest in the campaign. The further he goes and the closer he gets to the people the better for the cause he represents.

A Week's Politics.

By S. E. Moffett.

One of the most startling features of the present extraordinary campaign has been the fluidity of old convictions among educated men. Changes of party associations were to be expected; they always happen when parties join battle on new issues, and they are themselves the best testimony to individual consistency. But when a man of mature years, after prolonged deliberation, adopts certain opinions, he does not often reverse them. If Mr. McKinley should declare himself a free trader or Henry George should take to denouncing the single tax there would be more or less surprise. Things of precisely this nature are happening in connection with this silver question every day. Old and apparently immovable convictions are crumbling like lumps of sugar in a cup of coffee. You do not know what your most intimate friend thinks about the silver question, unless you are talking with him at this moment. If a man who has made a life study of economic questions, with all the advantages of undergraduate and post-graduate courses in the best universities at home and abroad, told you a week ago that he thought free coinage a dangerous delusion, you have no assurance that he is not a free silver man to-day. I know, because I have had just such experiences within the past week.

Just before the nomination of Mr. Cleveland, four years ago, silver was an extremely live issue at Washington. The House was divided exactly in the middle on the question of free coinage. At that time Mr. W. D. Bynum used to flit about the corridors of the Capitol, looking for a crack to fall through. Not finding any he had to go into the House and vote. He had always been a free silver man, but at that time he was beginning to feel shaky. However, when the pinch came, he took his medicine and voted silver straight, with Bland and Bryan, on every roll call. The most enthusiastic and indefatigable of the fighters on the other side was George Fred Williams, of Massachusetts. He was one of the three Massachusetts Democrats that refused to vote for the regular Democratic nominee for Speaker, because they could not conscientiously support a free silver man. He furnished the brains, energy and scholarship, and Bourke Cochran the lungs, of the gold combination. Now Bynum is leading the gold standard Democracy in the home of inflation, and Williams is preaching free silver with stunning success in a State that paid the interest of its bonds in gold when legal tender paper was worth forty cents on the dollar.

I met an acquaintance the other day with a Bryan button on. "When did you become a silverite?" I asked, with some surprise. "Never," he responded, "I'm for the gold standard. That's why I'm working for Bryan." As my surprise did not diminish, he explained.

"You see," he said, "I don't think either McKinley or Bryan can get a Congress to suit his ideas. McKinley certainly can't get a gold Senate, and I'm pretty sure that Bryan can't get a free silver House. The first thing the successful candidate will have to face after his inauguration will be a raid on the gold reserve. McKinley would meet the emergency by issuing bonds. It is doubtful whether the first issue would be successful, and if it were, the second pretty certainly would not. The Treasury would get deeper and deeper into the mire, the credit of the Government would grow worse and worse and popular rage would rise to such a pitch that free coinage would have everything its own way at the next Congressional elections, if not sooner.

"If the raid were tried on Bryan, he would meet it by offering to pay the notes presented in silver dollars. That would instantly stop the drain. There would be a howl, and there might be a slight temporary premium on gold, but it would hardly be greater than there is now, and it would soon disappear. There would be no bond issues, and no more worrying about the gold reserve than there was in the eighties, when less than half as much gold was drawn out of the Treasury in ten years as there was last year in a month. Bryan would ask Congress for legislation to increase the revenue, and he would get it, which McKinley could not. Then, with a surplus instead of a deficit, and an end of speculative raids, we should prosper as we did ten years ago, our currency would be in a healthy condition, and we should stop fighting over silver. McKinley's election means financial chaos—it means the perpetuation of deficits and bond issues—it means all the evils of free coinage without its advantages, until we turn in desperation to free coinage itself for relief. Hence I am for Bryan and sound money."

All of which goes to show that there are various ways of looking at things.

Both Had to Be Pushed.

Patrick Muldoon had been staring in openmouthed amazement at the odd doings of people in Yankeeland just three days when he was engaged by a gentleman with a residence in a flowering suburb along the Hudson, as a gardener and man of all work. Simultaneously with this venture the gentleman purchased a lawn mower, and he took his new acquisitions home together. The lawn mower, after its mechanism was explained to Patrick, was deposited in the woodshed, and he was told his first duty on the morrow would be to put it to use in the front yard. So the next morning, after breakfast was over and the master had departed for the city, Patrick proceeded to the shed and discovered, as he thought, two lawn movers.

"Begob," said he, "Oi'll take the little wan. It will be aisier to push."

So he wheeled out the smaller machine and from then until the boiling sun was at the meridian he pushed it up and down the velvety slopes of the front yard. Then he threw down the handle, perspiring and disgusted, and going around to the kitchen, said:

"Sure, I've wheeled that little perambulator up an' down all marnin', and' not a thing will it do but pull the grass up by th' roots."

The housemaid volunteered to go and see what the trouble was, and when she reached Pat's machine she emitted a shriek of merriment peculiar to housemaids, and nearly fainted.

"You idiot," she said to Pat, "you've torn up half the grass in the yard and ruined our new carpet sweeper."

Advice to the Enemy.

[Detroit Tribune.]

They don't go at the silver tide right. Tides have to be treated with the cracked ice of logic rather than the hot compress of vituperation.

Fugitive Thinkers.

[Detroit Tribune.]

Mr. Andrew D. White is very much disposed not to longer conceal the fact that everybody who doesn't agree with him is a fugitive from justice.

Westerners Have Votes.

[Washington Post.]

We fear our New York friends overlook the fact that there will be a few ballots cast west of Jersey City and Hoboken this year.

The Vampires of Columbia Heights.

NIGHT had spread her sable pall over Columbia Heights, Brooklyn. The same thing had happened to other parts of Brooklyn, but not with the same significance. Nothing but the East river separates Columbia Heights from the throbbing heart of a great city, yet Columbia Heights at midnight has the uncanny quiet of a country churchyard. The sound of a footfall on the echoing pavement at 1 a. m. causes wakeful residents to cover their heads with the bed clothes; strange flapping things lurk in the crannies of vine-covered walls.

Mrs. Younghusband was wakeful last Thursday night. The conjugal couch stood near a window opening at the end of a narrow court separating two buildings, half way from their rear to their front. For the sake of air the doors of parlor and back parlor were open. Mrs. Younghusband could hear the rustle of the curtains of the front windows. Suddenly her heart stood still. She gripped the shoulder of her sleeping spouse.

"George! George! What's that?"

"Wha— what's that? Hush, my dear, it is the cat."

"Wake up, George! There's something in the room. Don't you hear the flapping of its wings?"

"What's that? Flapping wing, did you say?"

"Yes—O-o-h! It just brushed across my face! Oh, George, I'm so frightened—O-o-o-h, here it comes again!"

"Ugh!—!—!!" and George's head went under the bed clothes.

Something was flying through the rooms, skimming over the surface of the bed, whirring between portieres, through the parlor, to the front windows and back again—something strange and dreadful, Mrs. Younghusband thought, as the sluggish wings brushed her face again. Suddenly she sat up in bed with a shriek.

"Oh, George, there are two of them! What are they, George?"

"Bats," said George, in a smothered voice from beneath the bed clothes; "beastly, clammy, flapping bats!"

"George, are you afraid of bats?"

A shudder from beneath the bed clothes.

"George, I'm ashamed of you—you who attacked a burglar single handed and held him till the police came and—O-o-o-h! it has claws, George! One of them caught in my hair!"

"Get under the bedclothes, why don't you? Hang it all! a bat isn't a burglar; it's a beastly, clammy, flapping, clawing, biting, blood-sucking vampire"——

"What! a vampire! Oh, George, the baby!"

And Mrs. Younghusband sprang from the couch dragging the bedclothes with her and rushed to the door of an adjoining room, which she closed with a bang. As she turned back toward the bed a volley of muttered objurgations called her attention to a white-robed figure standing in the middle of the room whirling its arms like a windmill and dancing about in the dim light. It was Mr. Younghusband with one of the bats clinging to his pajamas.

"Ugh! B-r-r-r, ouch!" said Mr. Younghusband.

In being dislodged the bat had bitten through Mr. Younghusband's pajamas. With a howl of anguish he sprang to the entrance of the front parlor and wrapped himself in one of the portieres. He had seized a sofa pillow en route, and with this he struck savagely at the bats as they flapped backward and forward between the front and rear windows.

"O-o-o-h!" shrieked Mrs. Younghusband from the other side of the back parlor, "one of them flew right into my face!"

She ran to the other portiere and wrapped herself in its folds, and thus the Younghusbands stood like animated gate posts between which the bats continued to flap back and forth through the rooms.

"George," said Mrs. Younghusband, after a pause, "they must have come in through the rear window. See, they are flapping back to it continually. Go and draw aside the curtains, dear, and they'll probably go out the way they come."

"Not for worlds," said George, as he made a vicious onslaught with the sofa pillow.

"What a coward you are!"

"See, here, do you know anything about bats?"

"N-no, not much."

"Their wings are of skin, like the web feet of a duck."

"Ugh!"

"Each wing has three hooks like the claws of a cat."

"Ugh! ugh!"

"They are covered with hair and look like a horrible winged mouse."

"O-o-oh! Ugh! here the nasty things come again!"

"They stay in their damp dark holes by day and at night they go out to suck the blood of man and beast."

"Ugh! ugh! the horrid things!"

"Witches use their wings for broth. That's what the witches in 'Macbeth' did. Sorcerers brew their blood into evil potions"——

"Stop! stop! George! Oh, how you frighten me!"

At this juncture both bats flapped straight into George's face. In the midst of shuddering curses the portiere came down, a table and two chairs were knocked over, and presently Mrs. Younghusband saw her agitated spouse rush to the rear window, throw something from it and slam down the sash.

"Oh, George, what have you done?"

"I've thrown one of your portieres and a couple of clammy, clawing, biting, beastly bats into the court."

At 4 a. m., the weary and dishevelled Younghusbands once more sought their couch, and when the rising sun looked in at that rear window it saw the melancholy wreck of what was a few hours before as handsome a suite of apartments as could be found on Columbia Heights.

CURTIS DUNHAM.

The Matter of Bow Legs.

[Indianapolis Journal.]

"Bowlegged? Is Watson bowlegged?" said his best friend. "His legs are such curves that when he stands alongside of his bicycle a stranger would swear that it was a tricycle."